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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/635,966	08/07/2003	Zhao Wei Dong	4555 P 035	1233

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EXAMINER

DUNWOODY, AARON M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3679

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/635,966

Applicant(s)

DONG, ZHAO WEI

Examiner

Aaron M Dunwoody

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12, 15, 16, 18-30, 34 and 36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 13, 14, 17, 31-33 and 35 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 August 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

No priority claimed.

Information Disclosure Statement

No information disclosure statement submitted.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the anchor having at least one aperture, and wherein the second member has the other of at least one resilient tab, wherein the tab releasably engages the aperture; and the second member including a second nozzle adapted to be inserted into the other of the conduits must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as

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per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 15 recites the limitation "the fixed end of the wing" in line 9. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-10, 12, 15, 16, 18-30, 34 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US patent 5415825, Sellers.

In regard to claim 1, Sellers discloses a connector assembly for releasably connecting a pair of conduits, the assembly comprising:

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a first member (33) having a nozzle (24), the first member adapted to be connected to one of the conduits; and

a second member (36) receiving the nozzle, the second member adapted to be connected to the other of the conduits;

wherein the first member and second member have cooperative structure releasably connecting the first and second members.

In regards to claim 2, Sellers discloses an anchor (40) secured to the first member.

In regards to claim 3, Sellers discloses the anchor can be releasably engaged with the second member.

In regards to claim 4, Sellers discloses the anchor being rotatable about the first member.

In regards to claim 5, Sellers discloses the second member having at least one aperture (57), and wherein at least a portion of the anchor releasably engages the aperture.

In regards to claim 6, Sellers discloses at least one of the first or second members being made of plastic.

In regards to claim 7, Sellers discloses a connector assembly for releasably connecting a pair of conduits, the assembly comprising:

a first member having a nozzle, the first member adapted to be connected to one of the conduits;

an anchor rotatably mounted on the first member; and

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a second member receiving the nozzle, and the second member adapted to be connected to the other of the conduits;

wherein the anchor and second member have cooperative structure releasably connecting the first and second members.

In regards to claim 8, Sellers discloses the anchor having at least one tab (51) extending therefrom.

In regards to claim 9, Sellers discloses the second member having at least one aperture, and wherein the tab releasably engages the aperture.

In regards to claim 10, Sellers discloses the anchor having at least one resilient tab, or at least one aperture, and wherein the second member has the other of at least one resilient tab or at least one aperture, wherein the tab releasably engages the aperture.

In regards to claim 12, Sellers discloses a connector assembly for releasably connecting a pair of conduits, the assembly comprising:

a first member having a nozzle, the first member adapted to be connected to one of the conduits;

an anchor rotatably mounted on the first member, the anchor having at least one resilient tab extending therefrom;

a second member receiving the nozzle, wherein the second member has at least one aperture, the second member adapted to be connected to the other of the conduits;

wherein the tab engages the aperture to releasably connect the first and second members.

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In regards to claim 15, as best understood, Sellers discloses the second member further having a collar, wherein the fixed end of the wing is connected to the collar.

In regards to claim 16, as best understood, Sellers discloses the collar being removably connected to the second member.

In regards to claim 18, Sellers discloses the second member including a second nozzle adapted to be inserted into the second conduit.

In regards to claim 19, Sellers discloses the second member having at least one slot.

In regards to claim 20, Sellers discloses the anchor can be inserted into the second member only when the projection is aligned with the slot.

In regards to claim 21, Sellers discloses two projections and two slots.

In regards to claim 22, Sellers discloses a connector assembly for releasably connecting a pair of conduits, the assembly comprising:

- a first member having a nozzle, the nozzle having a groove (25), the first member adapted to be connected to one of the conduits;

- an anchor rotatably mounted in the groove, the anchor having at least one resilient tab extending therefrom;

- a second member having an opening that receives the nozzle in the first member, the second member further having at least one aperture, the second member adapted to be connected to the other of the conduits;

wherein the tab is moveable between an expanded position wherein a portion of the tab engages the aperture to connect the first and second members, and a

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compressed position wherein the tab is disengaged from the aperture permitting disconnection of the first and second members.

In regards to claim 23, Sellers the nozzle of the first member having at least one seal (43, 44) that, when the first and second members are connected, is positioned along the second member.

In regards to claim 24, Sellers discloses the seal being an O-ring.

In regards to claim 25, Sellers discloses the aperture being located in communication with the opening.

In regards to claim 26, Sellers discloses the second member having at least one slot.

In regards to claim 27, Sellers discloses the slot extending between the opening and the aperture.

In regards to claim 28, Sellers discloses the slot being cooperatively dimensioned with the tab.

In regards to claim 29, Sellers discloses the anchor can be inserted into the second member only when the tab is aligned with the slot.

In regards to claim 30, Sellers discloses two tabs and two slots.

In regards to claim 34, Sellers discloses at least one of the first or second member being made of plastic.

In regards to claim 36, Sellers discloses the second member including a second nozzle adapted to be inserted into the other of the conduits.

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11, 13, 14, 17, 31-33 and 35 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron M Dunwoody whose telephone number is 703-306-3436. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P Stodola can be reached on 703-306-5771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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